

## **Northeast Environmental Services**

EPA Identification Number: NYD057770109

### **Other (Former) Names of Site**

Environmental Services of America, Inc., ERD Environmental, Inc., ERD Waste Corp., Haz-O-Waste Corporation, Millennium Environmental, Inc.

### **Site Description**

The Haz-O-Waste Corporation operated this treatment and storage facility for hazardous and industrial wastes from August 1976 until it was purchased by Northeast Environmental Services, Inc., in September, 1986. The facility is located on Canal Road in the Town of Lenox, New York. It is in a rural area, surrounded by active farmland. The nearest residential dwellings are approximately 2,000 feet from the facility to the east, west and north. Dwellings to the south are a greater distance away, across the Erie Canal. There are no industrial or commercial buildings in the immediate vicinity.

Until July 2001, Northeast Environmental Services operated as a treatment and storage facility for hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. The facility accepted hazardous wastes from off-site generators for storage and treatment prior to shipping, in its licensed transport vehicles, to authorized hazardous waste management facilities. No wastes were disposed of on-site.

Materials that were explosive, radioactive, or contained polychlorinated biphenyls greater than 50 parts per million were not accepted by the facility. The facility's operations involved processing, blending and preparation of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes for final disposal. Its processing operations involved decanting, neutralization, and recontainerizing or blending of solids/sludges, wastewaters, and waste fuels.

Some examples of the hazardous wastes processed were industrial solvents, ink and paint residues, acids, caustics, lab chemicals and bleach. Non-hazardous wastes included oil-contaminated debris, latex paint, waxes and resins. In July 2001, Northeast Environmental Services ceased operating and left waste on-site. This waste has since been removed and disposed of properly. There is a fence around the former manufacturing area to limit access.

### **Regulatory Site Responsibility and Legal Instrument**

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is responsible for regulatory oversight of the site remediation under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) corrective action program, implemented through a NYS Part 373

operating permit. In August 2001, NYSDEC issued a summary abatement order that required Northeast Environmental Services to remove dangerous wastes from the site, reactivate the groundwater pump and treat system, secure the premises, and adequately staff the facility to minimize risks to the public and the environment.

On January 31, 2002, the NYSDEC commissioner revoked the Part 373 hazardous waste management facility permit for this facility because the company failed to comply with the requirements of the permit and the order. NYSDEC currently is responsible for overseeing corrective action and closure activities at the facility. Funds that were set aside by Northeast Environmental Services, as required by its Part 373 permit, will be used for these activities.

### **Permit Status**

A NYS Part 373 Operating Treatment, Storage or Disposal Permit was issued on November 1, 1991. A renewal application was submitted before the permit expired. However, this permit has been revoked, as described above.

### **Potential Threats and Contaminants**

Northeast Environmental Services investigated two solid waste management units at the facility. Samples of soil and groundwater at the facility showed contamination such as toluene, trichloroethene, and xylene at levels exceeding state standards.

### **Cleanup Approach and Progress**

#### Groundwater

An investigation of the groundwater was concluded in March 1992. Based upon this investigation a groundwater treatment facility was constructed and began operating in May 1993. The groundwater treatment system was designed to operate at a rate of up twenty gallons per minute. In the fall of 1998, an additional recovery well was added, and data collected subsequently indicate a need for further investigation and system evaluation.

In July 2001, Northeast Environmental Services (NES) discontinued operating the groundwater treatment system, but the August 2001 order required the facility to restart it. When NES did not do the work, its permit was revoked and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and its contractor restarted the groundwater monitoring system and did other on-site work with the remaining funds that had been set aside.

Groundwater monitoring was conducted in October 2002 to verify that contaminated groundwater was not migrating off-site. The report, submitted to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in January 2003, indicated the presence of a narrow plume of contaminated groundwater going off-site. NYSDEC plans to conduct additional sampling in the spring of 2004 to more accurately delineate the

plume. Private wells have not been impacted at this time. NYSDEC has recommended to the NY State Department of Health to sample private wells at least every three years.

### Soils

In June 1999, Northeast Environmental Services completed installation of two soil vapor extraction (SVE) systems to address contaminated soils at the facility. However, both SVE systems have been shut down because they were found not to be cost-effective based on vacuum readings, sampling data and high groundwater elevations. A soils investigation completed in October 2002 showed that all soil contamination is within 50 feet of the former plant building, and is inaccessible to the public because it is either completely fenced in or under the former plant building. Final soil remediation plans are on hold due to funding issues and the lack of current human exposure to the contaminated soil.

### Remaining Regulated Wastes

All wastes have been removed from the facility. A total of 1,179 drums/containers and 13 tanks were removed from the container storage area by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's contractor. This action included the removal of more than 13,000 gallons of hazardous and non-hazardous flammable liquids, waste inks, oxidizers, peroxides, corrosives, and waste pesticides.

The soil and groundwater are contaminated with volatile organic compounds at concentrations exceeding state standards. There is a fence around the former manufacturing area, which is where the soil contamination is located, and thus human exposures from contaminated soils are considered to be under control.

### **Site Repository**

Copies of supporting technical documents and correspondence cited in this site fact sheet are available for public review at:

USEPA Region 2  
290 Broadway  
New York, NY 10007  
Contact Person: Carol Stein  
Telephone (212) 637-4181

NYSDEC - Region 7  
615 Erie Boulevard West  
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400  
Contact person: Tim DeGiulio  
Telephone (315) 426-7400

NYSDEC - Albany

Bureau of Hazardous Waste Facilities  
Division of Solid & Hazardous Materials  
50 Wolf Road - Room 460  
Albany, NY 12233-7252  
Contact Person: Stephen Malsan  
Telephone (518) 402-8594